Air-Lift



FLIGHT SCHEDULE

AIRLIFT OF THE 2d BATTLE CROUP, 47th INFANTRY

Beginning on 10 May 1959, C-123 "Providers" (Troop Carrier Planes) will dommence tactical airlift of the 2d Battle Group, 47th Infantry from Fort Lewis' Gray Field to Selah Springs Assault Airstrip on the Yakima military reservation. There, they will join other units of the 4th Division for Exercise DRY HILLS.

The airlift will continue through 12 May, and possibly extend through 13 May should inclement weather slcw the operation and thus alter flight schedules.

Flights are scheduled to begin a 0600 hours daily, the first planes arriving at Selah Springs Airstrip at 0700 hours on 10 May. The daily landing operations of the C-123's will continue until 1700 hours daily, and will be in flights of six or nine aircraft.

Upon landing, troops and vehicles will be moved immediately to a control and assembly area adjacent to the airstrip and then by waiting vehicles to their unit assembly areas.

An advance detachment and a land tail of the 47th Infantry will move to the Yakima Firing Center a few days in advance of the airlift. Heavy vehicles and equipment which cannot be lifted by the C-123's will be included in land tail.

The airlift operation is to be accomplished in three increments organized generally as follows on the days scheduled:

First Increment (1st Day)

Co A, 47th Infantry
Co B, 47th Infantry
Combat Support Company (-)
(Recon Platoon)
(Assault Gun Platoon)
(Mortar Platoon)
(FAC Team)
BG Command Group (-)
Engineer Platoon
Commo Platoon (-)
BG Aid Station
1 Ambulance
Liaison Party, Btry A, 1st How Bn, 1st Artillery

Second Increment (2d Day)

Company C, 47th Infantry
Company D, 47th Infantry
Btry A, 1st How Bn, 1st Artillery
Counterfire Squad
5th Plat, Co B, 124th Signal Bn
3d Clearing Plat, 4th Medical Bn
1 Ambulance

Third Increment (3d Day)

Company E, 47th Infantry
5th Ord D/S Plat, Co A, 704th Ord Bn
Departure airfield Control Group
1 Ambulance

ATR FORCE C-123 " Providers"

Eighteen such aircraft from Sewart Air Force Base, Tennessee will fly from Gray Army Air Field at Fort Lewis, Washington to the Selah Springs Assault Airstrip, Yakima Firing Ceater, carrying the 2d Battle Group of the 47th Infantry during the tactical airlift, 10-12 May.

Use: Troop and Equipment Carrier

Wing Span: 110 feet

Weight: 43,500 lbs

Crew: Three

No. of Engines: Two reciprocating

Pratt and Whitney

Manufacture: Fairchild

Length: 76 feet

Range: 1200 miles

Speed: 175 MPH

Horsepower: 2400 HP





THE TACTICAL AIR COMMAND

The United States Air Forces' Tactical Air Command (TAC) is composed of the Ninth, Twelfth, and the Nineteenth Air Forces with its headquarters at Langely Air Force Base, Virginia. TAC is participating in Exercise DRY HILLS in order to improve established procedures and to practice the inter-service coordination needed for successful air-ground operations.

Headquarters Twelfth Air Force, commanded by Major General Chester E. McCarty, has assigned the responsibility for tactical air operations at Exercise DRY HILLS to the 832d Air Division at Cannon Air Force Base, Clovis, New Mexico. The 832d is equipped with supersonic North American F-100D Super Sabre fighter-bombers.

The role of tactical air power, when operating in conjunction with Army field forces is to gain control of the air space over the theater of operations thereby allowing freedom of movement for friendly ground forces, and to aid ground forces in eliminating enemy ground resistance by destroying his troops, supplies, buildings and equipment. Tactical air forces also provide timely and accurate intelligence information through aerial reconnaissance, a primary means availabe to ground force and air force commanders for obtaining information of enemy troop movements, operations and concentrations and of terrain not under friendly control.

One of TAC's major contributions toward insuring world peace has been the development of the Composite Air Strike Force (CASF) concepts of meeting world aggression. CASF is an entirely self-sufficient tactical air organization, which can be flown to any trouble spot in the world in less than two and a half days. Composed of tactical fighters, bombers, reconnaissance, and transport aircraft with enough men, equipment and supplies to enable it to perform effective combat operations, without reinforcement for over a month, CASF has the further versatility of being effective in any all out war.

Participating in the exercise air operations with the 832d Air Division will be RF-101 Voodoo reconnaissance aircraft from the 837th Air Division at Shaw Air Force Base, South Carolina, and air transport support will be provided by the 839th Air Division at Sewart Air Force Base, Tennessee. The 839th will provide C-123 "Providers" for the tactical air-lift of the 2d Battle Group, 47th Infantry.

Tactical Air Command assault transport planes are essential to successful air-ground operations. Their ability to move troops, equipment and supplies to any theater of operation, coupled with the capability to air-drop reinforcements to troops deployed in the battlefield are essential features of the tactical transport concept.

2nd BATTLE GROUP, 47th INFANTRY

The 47th Infantry, nicknamed the Raiders, was first organized on June 1, 1917, at Syracuse, New York, and was assigned to the 4th Infantry Division. With that Division, it departed on 28 April 1918 for France and World War I. The Regiment's foremost fight of the war took place at Sergy on the Curcq, commemorated on the regimental crest by a water wheel. The fleur-de-lis on the crest represents this action and the later engagement at Bazoches on the Vesle, both being located within the old province of Ile de France, whose royal arms bear the same device. In addition, the unit took part in the Aisne-Marne, St. Mihiel, and Meuse-Argonne offensives. At war's end, the Regiment served as occupation forces at Coblenz before returning to the States for inactivation at Camp Lewis, Washington in September 1921.

Reactivated on 10 August 1940 as part of the 9th Division, the 47th underwent amphibious training which was put to use in the fall of that year in the invasion of North Africa. On 8 November 1942, the Regiment landed at Dafi, French Morocco, where it helped mop up Vichy resistance. Following this action, the unit treked 238 miles to Port Lyautry and from there shipped through the Straits of Gibraltar into the Mediterranean. The Raiders were on their way to one of the fiercest battles in the struggle for North Africa, that of El Guettar. In order to relieve pressure on the British forces to the south, the 47th pushed forward on the Gafsa-Gabes axis at great cost in human life. On the 7th of April, the British 8th Army outflanked the enemy and the American and British forces met the next day. The 47th had sustained as a result of the campaign, 733 casualties, 100 of them dead.

The Regiment was next charted to give as assist to the fighting in Sicily. To that end, the unit left Oran for Palermo on 28 July 1943. The Raiders' stay in Sicily was brief, comprising little over a month. In contrast to the African campaign, its losses were light. During this period, the Regiment took part in the capture of Randazzo and Cesaro.

On 8 September 1943, the 47th left Sicily for England where, after a combination of rest and training, the veteran Raiders were ready for the assault on Normandy. The fighting in the hedgerows was intense when the Regiment landed at Utah Beach on 11 June 1944. Joining in the effort to cut off the German forces in the Cotentin Peninsula, the 47th's first objective was the high ground northwest of Orglandes. This overrun, the Raiders wheeled west toward the Hauttesville-Bocage and Biniville area, pushing the stubbornly resisting Germans from the last high ground east of the Douve River. The Regiment next swung south and west, passed through the beachhead established by the 82d Airtorne at St. Sauveur-Le Vicomt, and in one of the fastest advances in the campaign, drove on to the west coast and into the St. Lo-d'Ourville area. Swiveling north, the 47th next made its way through a series of enemy strong points and concrete bunkers to become the first troops to enter Cherbourg. This move secured the vital port for the allied build-up!

The Contentin taken the Regiment could then turn its attention to the south and the French interior. Beginning wit the St. Lo break through, the unit remained in the vanguard as their force arched below Paris and knifed into Belgium. After Liege had been taken and after serving a brief period in occupation of that city, the Regiment was once again on the move, this time headed for the bitter struggle on the Siegfried Line where success was momentarily imperiled by the von Rundstedt offensive.

However, with the Line breached, the 47th forged on, their objective, the east bank of the Rhine at Remagen where the Germans had dug in on the high ground and were defending tenaciously the last good natural barrier to a conquering allied inundation of the German heartland. Companies dissolved in the searing blanket of fire laid down by the enemy, but the 47th moved doggedly forward finally succeeding in dislodging the resistance. The road lay open and allied forces treamed through. The 47th capped off its actions in the Second World War by helping route a crack German division at Dessay and in mopping up operations in the Hartz Mountains.

After serving as occupation troops for over a year, the 47th Infantry was inactivated on 31 December 1946. Activated again on 15 July 1947 at Fort Dix, New Jersey, the Regiment was shipped to Germany to join the NATO forces several years later. In April 1957, having returned to Fort Carson, Colorado, Co B of the 47th was assigned to Fort Lewis, Washington. There it became the nucleus for the pentomic 2d Battle Group of the 47th Infantry assigned to the 4th Infantry Division. This Battle Group, known locally as the Panthers, has since been engaged in training.

The standard of the 47th Infantry is decorated with a Distinguished Unit Citation for Remagen and 13 Campaign Streamers, silent testimony of the deeds of courageous and spirited men who made the Regiment their own. The motto of the 47th is Ex Virtute Honce, "Honor Comes From Virtue," and throughout its battle-starred career, the Regiment has shown that it never lacked that special aggressive virtue needed to persevere and prevail in the face of enemy fire.

THE STRATEGIC ARMY CORPS

The Strategic Army Corps (STRAC) is the Army's newly developed highly mobile fighting force. It is composed of two airborne and two infantry divisions. It is designed as a powerful deterent to limited war, and has the capability of stamping out a brush fire conflict before it can spread into a global war.

The initials S T R A C defined are: Skilled - Tough - Ready

Around the Clock. Thus, the motto reflects the corps' fire power,

mobility, and the scope of operations which includes any trouble spot

on the face of the earth.

The 4th Infantry Division is an integral part of the Strategic Army Corps. The announcement of the divisions integration into the corps followed Exercise INDIAN RIVER in May 1958.

4th INFANTRY DIVISION

"History of the Famous 4th"

The 4th Infantry Division was first organized at Camp Green, North Carolina, on 3 December 1917, under the command of Major General George H. Cameron. Its distinctive insignia, the Ivy Leaf, dates back to that time. The word "Ivy", as pronounced, suggests the characters used in the Roman numeral "IV". The Division, better known as the Famous 4th, has always been proud of and lived up to its motto-"Steadfast and Loyal".

The division first saw action in France in the summer of 1918, where it was successful in stopping the German advance toward Paris at the Marne River. The 4th then continued to push the Germans back, climaxing its gallant offensive against the heavily fortified Meuse-Argonne area, where a dicisive victory marked the beginning of the end for Keiser's dream of conquest. The division returned to the United States and demobilized on 1 August 1919.

When Hitler rose into power, and again touched off the spark that flamed into World War II, the 4th Division was reactivated on 3 June 1940. During the next three years the 4th trained in the states, and on 18 January 1944 departed for Europe for World War II service.

Here on D-Day, 6 June 1944, the scene of the Normandy invasion, units of the Ivy Division were the first to contact the Germans. After three days of hard fighting, the beachhead was established, and then began the big push toward Cherbourg, and importand link in the German coastal supply line. Overcoming overwhelming obstacles, by the end of June, the 4th mardhed into Cherbourg, occupying the city. It was during this period of grit and dogged determination that the division was named, the "men with the terrible green crosses" by the German troops. During the period 24 July to 18 August, as a part of General Patton's Third Army, the Ivy Division was in the thick of the drive across France and materially aided in the liberation of Paris; being the only American division to march through that city.

During September and October, the Famous 4th breeched the supposedly impregnable Siegfried Line, fighting its way across the border into Germany, where it is credited as being the first American unit to set foot. on German soil.

The Division held firm at Dickweiler and Ostweiler in Luxembourg when the Germans made their last big attack of the war on 16 December in the Ardennes Forest.

The 4th quickly overran Fuhren and Viaden, after crossing the Sauer River on 18 January 1945, in pursuit of the Germans, who were, by that time, in full flight. At the time of the cessation of hostilities, the 4th had driven deep into the vital heart of Germany, capturing 75,000 German soldiers and killing inestimable number from D-Day to VE-Day.

The 4th Division won battle streamers for the following World War II campaigns: Normandy, Northern France, Ardennes, Rhineland and Central Europe, It was also awarded the Belgian Fourragere for action in the St. Hubert area. The 8th, 12th and 22d Infantry Regiments of the 4th were each awarded Distinguished Unit Citations.

Returning to the United States after VE-Day, the Famous 4th was inactivated on 15 July 1947 at Fort Ord, California, this time as a training division. Reorganized as an infantry division at Fort Benning, Georgia on 10 October 1950, the 4th began training for overseas shipment.

The division arrived in Germany during May-June 1951. Taking its place with the NATO forces, the 4th occupied operational readiness positions in the main avenues of approach within its assigned zone of responsibility. It served five years in Germany.

In April 1957, seven months after the 4th's colors were returned to the US and assigned to Fort Lewis, Washington, the Ivy Division underwent a pentomic reorganization revolutionizing the size and absucture of all units. The 2d Battle Groups of the 39th and 47th Infantoics were added to the 1st Battle Groups of the 8th, 12th and 22d Regiments implementing the five-sided battle concept. Other units formed by the pentomic reorganization included the 124th Signal Battalion, 2d Reconnaissance Squadron, 8th Cavalry, 14th Transportation Battalion, and the 4th Aviation Company. Division artillery was altered from live to two battalions, having atomic capabilities in its 8-inch Howitzer and 762mm Honest John Rocket batteries.

By means of continual training and regular maneuvers, the pentomic 4th Division is maintaining a high peak of prepardness for all possible emergencies.

All units of the 4th Infantry Divison participate annually in Army Training Tests designed to assess the division's efficiency on a small unit level of pentomic tactics. Exercise COLD BAD held in Alaska tested the new tactics on a larger scale, and the 2d Battle Group of the 39th Infantry thereby became the first unit of its size to put these tactics to the test.

Exercise INDIAN RIVER in May 1958, the first to coordinate training of the entire division in a field exercise was followed by the announcement of the 4th Infantry Division's integration into STRAC (Strategic Army Corps), the Army's newly developed highly mobile fighting force, composed of two airborne and two infantry divisions. The Famous 4th increased its versatility as a result of Exercise ROCKY SHOALS conducted off the California coast in November 1958, where units gained proficiency in sea to land operations in the largest amphibious exercise since 1950.

In March 1959, the pentomic structure of the 4th Infantry Division underwent major revisions. Division Artillery was augmented to include five direct support battalions and one general support battalion, each containing a Headquarters and Service Battery. Fire power in each direct support battalion was increased by one 105mm Howitzer battery and 155mm Howitzer battery. The general support battalion gives the devastating "punch" of the atom with its 8-inch Howitzer battery and 762mm Honest John Rocket battery. The number of rifle companies in each battle group has been increased from four to five. The Battle Group Headquarters and Headquarters Company was divided into a combat support company and a Headquarters and Headquarters Company. A heavy mortar platoon was organized for inclusion in the combat support company.

Exercise DRY HILLS is being conducted to maintain the high state of combat efficiency and readiness of the 4th Infantry Division!

BIOGRAPHIC.L SKETCH

COLONEL EDWIN A. MACHEN JR.

Commanding Officer, 2nd Battle Group, 47th Inf
Chief Umpire, Exercise Dry Hills

Assignment to Present Post and Date: Actual Date
Previous Assignments: Chief of Staff, US Military Mission with Iranian Army1954-1956
Previous Assignments to Note: Assistant G3, 15th Army, Europe
Service Schools Attended; Commission Obtained - US Military Academy. 1938 Advanced Course, the Infantry School. 1943 Command and General Staff School. 1944 Army War College. 1954 Command Management School 1957
Awards and Decoration:
Army Commendation Ribbon with two Oak Leaf Clusters Bronze Star Medal with one Oak Leaf Cluster Legion of Merit General Staff Identification Badge
Dependents: WifeDoris Effler Machen (Home Town - Toledo, Ohio) ChildrenSharon Ann (17) (17) John Michael (16) Patricia Besse (8)
Miscellaneous:
Home town: Toledo, Ohio Hobbies: Athletics (Golf, Tennis, Handball, Squash, Skiing) Traveling

